



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development
Federal Building • 75 High Street • Suite 320 • Morgantown, WV 26505-7500
Phone: 304.284.4860 OR 1.800.295.8228 • Fax: 304.284.4893 • TDD: 304.284.4836 • Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wv>

Gail Bennett, Public Information Coordinator – 304.284.4875

WV Rural Water Association Approved For Federal Funding to Relocate Headquarters

Morgantown, WV – March 20, 2006: State Director Robert M. Steptoe, III today announced that **Rural Development** approved a Community Facilities Direct Loan in the amount of \$425,000 for West Virginia Rural Water Association, Inc., Putnam County, WV.

Rural Development Agency funds will be used to purchase an existing building in the Teays Valley Business Park to serve as the headquarters for the West Virginia Rural Water Association, Inc.

Steptoe remarked, “Our Community Facilities Loan and Grant Programs -- used to finance projects like health care clinics, police and fire stations, schools, child care centers, etc. -- are essential to the quality of life in any rural community. USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that such facilities are readily available to all rural Americans.”

Rural Development serves as the lead Federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through its rural housing programs, rural business programs, and rural utilities programs. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Further information on USDA Rural Development may be obtained by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>. In West Virginia, call 1-800-295-8228 to be put in touch with the appropriate personnel serving your county. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at 202.720.2600 (voice and TDD).

###

Committed to the future of rural communities.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”
To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).